

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – February 11, 2022 1:30 PM

- Good afternoon.
- It has been a busy day and situations are evolving hour over hour. And twitter and media in general are covering events faster than I or policing partners can process and provide before it hits the media. Some of what I am about to report may already be dated.
- I'll start in Ontario and then move onto Alberta and then Manitoba.
- First, I would start by noting that the OPP is tracking protests in Thunder Bay, Greater Toronto Area, Toronto, Gananoque, and Niagara to name a few locations.

Windsor

- In terms of Windsor, the situation in Windsor is largely unchanged. Crowds have moved back, and greatly reduced in numbers, but there is still no movement.
- There were some developments overnight, an anonymous bomb threat needed to be investigated by the K9 unit. After a thorough investigation, the threat was deemed unfounded. Major Crimes followed up with the complainant and identifying the caller, who denied making the threat.
- Windsor police is being supported by RCMP Public Order Units (66 members), London Police Services and the OPP (120 members).

Ottawa

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- This morning in Ottawa, we were advised that the intersection of Sussex and Rideau has been fortified with tractor trucks parked tightly together. The mood of people at this intersection was described as defiant.
- We are monitoring several convoys that are expected to arrive in Ottawa today.
- As of 6AM this morning, there are no protestors on Parliament Hill, and minimal foot traffic on Wellington Street and surrounding streets.
- Now I will get into the plan. The plan was developed in partnership between the RCMP, OPS, OPP, and PPS. The ultimate responsibility for approving the plan is Chief Sloy.
- The plan is a phased approach, with the first goal being a reduction of protest footprint, including vehicles, trucks, and pedestrians.
- To attain that objective, the approach is a tried and tested crowd reduction technique^{s.37}
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- This plan includes significant cooperation, is scalable, measurable, with goals that are achievable. (SMART goals) It is a fluid plan that is to be monitored daily, and adjusted according to its successes or failures.
- The plan is multifaceted. The largest component of it, is on the ground messaging by regular uniformed officers (as in no tactical attire), aimed at changing the crowd's mentality and getting them to leave voluntarily. Note that this is what was used in Alberta, to get them from 200 trucks to 40.
- In addition to the key communication tactics, the daily goals will include things like, determining the specific trucks with children, determining which trucks may be chained together, and setting goals of daily percentage decreases in protestors.

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- As each day progresses the tone and messaging will get progressively more serious. Stronger warnings of fines, arrests, and detention will be made.
- At some point, depending on the progress made on the daily goals, a decision will be made to initiate kinetic actions using our Emergency Response teams, or more commonly known as SWAT.
- If the teams are getting more pushback than success, the kinetic action will be needed sooner. If protesters are listening, leaving peacefully, with significantly assessed progression, we will allow each day's results to show for it, before taking that action.
- I will make it clear, there will, eventually be an ugly resolve to this. It is about minimizing the impact to public safety and taking our kinetic action when it is optimal and required.
- A key component to this plan is ensuring that all public interactions speak the same lines as the officers on the ground.
- Chief Sloly's daily messaging will be crafted each day depending on the progress and stage of the plan. It is very important that the Municipal, Provincial, and Federal governments also get the same messaging across to Canadians. This part of the plan is not specific to Ottawa, the communications strategy is to be used across all levels of policing throughout the country, so that the messaging is clear and consistent.
- This is how the plan also mitigates the risk of retaliation and outbreaks in different areas.

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- Now, in terms of our current numbers deployed in Ottawa, the total daily shift numbers for are for two shift rotations of officers deployed in support of the Ottawa Police Service. The RCMP has 225 members in the group, with the OPP currently at 233.
- For the Public Order Units, there is s.37 [REDACTED] and 42 OPP members deployed.
- Also, the RCMP continues to have approximately 345 members deployed daily in support of our protective mandate.
- There will be a constant evolution of members on the ground as this plan progresses.

Moving from Ontario.

- I can tell you that gradual progress is being made in Coutts. We have gone from a high of approximately 250 trucks to about 40 at present.
- The situation continues to evolve, but my team on the ground has tactical and operational plans in place. Focus is on assessing risks and opportunities from the perspective of public and officer safety.
- The Commanding Officer continues to engage with the Premier and other Government officials.
- The RCMP has requested that the CBSA temporarily suspend border clearance services at the Coutts POE to control vehicle access to the protest site and to ensure public and officer safety.
- This temporary measure will remain in effect until public and commercial traffic is allowed to flow through the POE.
- This measure went into effect today at 1:00 PM MT.

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- Premier Kenney has indicated he will be reaching into Federal Ministers today.

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In terms of Emerson

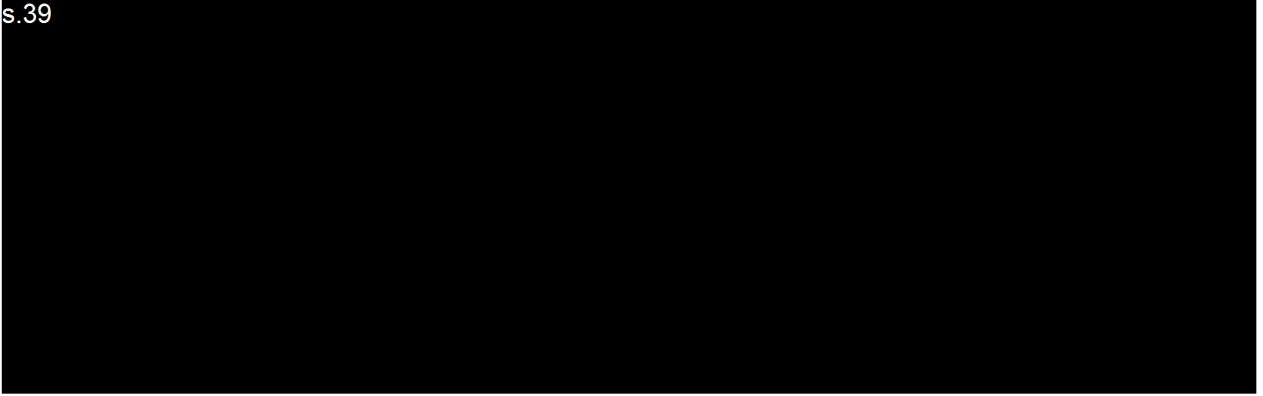
- As of this morning, the POE at Emerson remains blocked. A few of the vehicles and campers were removed last night during a storm.
- Approximately 35 vehicles and 20 individuals remain on site, with people coming and going.
- The focus of efforts today is having the group open up at least one lane of traffic for cross border travel.
- Approximately 16 members are dedicated to this event at this time, with more available if needed.
- All other Ports of Entry in Manitoba remain open and there is no protest activity or disruption.
- There have been no requests from the Province of Manitoba, nor any indication that they will be seeking to invoke Article 9.

Other POEs

- In addition to these areas, there are reports of protestors near the Marine Atlantic facility in North Sydney, Nova Scotia. There are a couple of pickup trucks and approximately 12 vehicles blocking regular access to ticket booths. There are no impacts on operations at this time; however, there could be impacts on traffic trying to reach the site later in the day.

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